## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D. C. 20554 OCT 2 4 2002

Jan P.

OFFICE OF MANAGING DIRECTOR

John P. Stem, Esquire Loral Space & Communications, Ltd. 1755 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1007 **Arlington,** Virginia 22202-3501

RE: Request for Partial Refund of Fee for Application to Extend Milestones
Fee Control Number 0204098210545001

## Dear Counsel:

This is in response to your Request for a Partial Refund of Fee for Application to Extend Milestones dated April 8,2002 submitted with the request to extend the construction completion and launch milestones for Loral SpaceCom Corporation's (Loral) Telstar 8 satellite. You request a refund of \$6,000, which is the difference between the amount paid by Loral (\$6,670) and the amount that you believe would be appropriate (\$670), but for an inadvertent elimination of certain words in the Commission's fee schedule that describe a construction permit extension in what the statute defines as a combination fee category for extension of construction/launch authority.

Loral paid a fee of \$6,670,' but you assert that because the Commission's schedule of charges in effect at the time and published at 47 CFR §§ 1.1102-1109 do not include a previously referenced category for "extension of construction permit/launch authorizations," that no fee is due for its current application. In the alternative, and in further support of your request, you urge the Commission to apply its earlier rationale that even though the application fee category was modified, so that milestone extension inadvertently was not listed precisely, the corresponding fee from the earlier publication (now increased to \$670) should be applied. See Letter from Mark A. Reger, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, to John P. Stem, Esquire, Loral Space & Communications Ltd., September 21, 2000 (Fee Control #9911048210376001). For the following reasons, we grant your request for a partial refund.

The statutory fee schedule specifies as an element of the category for space station fees a fee for each extension of construction permit/launch authorization request. 47 U.S.C. § 158(g), Common Carrier Service, Item 16.g. In implementing 47 U.S.C. § 158, the Commission stated that "[t]he Schedule of Charges created statutory fees that could only be changed in accordance with the statute or through the passage of new legislation." Report and Order, Establishment of a Fee Collection Program to Implement the Provisions of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The fee corresponds to the application fee for a space station modification, see 47 CFR § 1.1107(9)(c), which category, you assert, is closest to the requested relief,

Reconciliation Act & 1985, FCC 86-562, ¶ 8,2 FCC Rcd 947, 948 (1987). Accordingly, absent congressional action, the Commission will not purposely add to or delete from the statutorily established categories of feeable items. In that regard, the Commission later amended certain of its desto implement section 3001 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1989, which amended the Schedule of Charges to include the application and fee for an "extension of construction permit/launch authorization (per request)."

Subsequently, however, the Commission's fee schedule in effect at the time of Loral's current application inadvertently omitted the applicable statutorily established fee for such extensions. That inadvertence does not result in a change to the **statutory** schedule. **Thus**, the category and fee to obtain an extension of the milestones for construction remain valid. Consequently, Loral is entitled to a refund of \$6,000, the difference between the \$6,670 it paid and the applicable \$670 fee it should have paid.

Accordingly, Loral's request for a partial refund of \$6,000 is granted, and a check in that amount made payable to the maker of the original check will be sent to you. If you have any questions concerning this letter, you may call the Revenue and Receivables Operation Group at (202) 418-1995.

Mark Reger

Sincerely,

Chief Financial Officer

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Memorandum Opinion and Order, Establishment & a Fee Collection Program to Implement the Provisions & the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Acf of 1989. FCC 90-63, 5 FCC Rcd 3558,3633 (1990)



Space & Communications Ltd

1755 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Suite 1007 Arlington. VA 22202-3501 (703)414-1060 Fax: (703) 414-1079 John P. Stem
Deputy General Counsel

April **8,2002** 

Andrew **S.** Fishel
Managing Director
Office of Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission **445** 12th **street.** S. W.
Washington, D.C. **20554** 

Re: Request for Partial Refund of Fee for Application to Extend Milestones

Dear Mr. Fishel:

Pursuant to Section 1.11 17 of the Commission's Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1117, Loral SpaceCom Corporation ("Loral SpaceCom"), respectfully requests a partial refund of the \$6,670 fee that it is submitting today with its request to extend the construction completion and launch milestones for its Telstar 8 satellite.

Prior to September 14, 1998, the Commission's schedule of charges (found at 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1 101-1109) included a category under Section 1.1107(9)(g) for "extension of construction permit/launch authorizations" which was \$610 per request. However, the Commission's subsequent revisions to its schedule eliminated this fee category. Consequently, it would appear that no fee is due for extensions of construction permit/launch authorizations. In the absence of a specified fee and upon the advice of International Bureau staff, Loral Space & Communications Ltd. ("Loral") has previously filed milestone extension requests with the fee applicable for space station modifications (currently \$6,670), which was the closest remaining fee category that could even be deemed to apply to this type of application. However, Loral requested a refund of that fee, noting that milestone extension requests are usually short, often unopposed and relatively

easy for the Commission to act upon. Modification applications. on the other hand, usually involve much more detailed technical analysis and Commission effort.

In response to Loral's previous fee determination request, the Office of the Managing Director stated that the Commission's recent fee schedules have inadvertently omitted the applicable fee for milestone extensions.<sup>2</sup> It stated that the Commission will amend its fee schedule to reinstate the applicable fee. In the interim, the Office of the Managing Director determined that Loral was entitled to a refund of the difference between the fee for a satellite modification and the fee that would be due for milestone extensions.

Since the fee for milestone extensions has not yet been reinstated, Loral SpaceCom is filing its milestone extension request together with a fee of 56,670 for space station modifications (47 C.F.R. § 1.1107(9)(c)). Consistent with the Managing Director's previous fee determination, Loral SpaceCom requests that the Commission refund it 56,000: the difference between the 56,670 it is paying today and the \$670 fee that would most likely be applicable for a milestone extension request.<sup>3</sup>

If you have any questions regarding this refund request, please contact the undersigned. Thank you for your prompt consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

<u>.</u>:-

John P. Stem

I See Letter from John P. Stem, Loral Space & Communications Ltd. to Andrew S. Fishel, Managing Director, Office of Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, November 2, 1999.

See Letter from Mark A. Reger, Chief Financial Officer, Office of Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, to John P. Stern. Esq., Loral Space & Communications Ltd., Sept. 21, 2000 (Fee Control # 991 1048210376001) (attached hereto).

Fee categories that used to be \$610 per request appear to have been increased to \$670.

**Payment Transactions' Detail Report** 

Date: 09/03/2002

BY: FEE CONTROL NUMBER

0113087427

14/08/2002 00:00:00

WP00007029

Fee Control Payor Fcc Account Payer Received Number TIN Date

0204098210545001 L O USPACECOM CORP

600 THIRD AVENUE

NEW YORK NY 10016

	Payme∩t Amount	Payment Current Seq Type Balance Num Code Quantity		Callsign Other Id	Applicant Name			Detail Tran Amount Cod	s Payment e Type		
	\$6,670.00	\$6,670.00	1	BFY	1	TELSTAR8S2	L O U SPACECOM CORP	222023501		\$6,670.00 1	PMT
Total	1								•	\$6,670.00	

Page 1 of 1

Run Date: 1012912002			CFees a	•		Page 1 of 1			
Fee Control Num	Seq	F	Locat From: 10°			on, DC 9/29/2002	Reason Code	h u n t Remitted Refund Amount Current Balance Reason	Initials/Date Entered
0204098210545001	1	LORAL SI	PACECO	M CORP				\$6,670.00	1012912002
		1765 JEFI	FERSON	HIGHWAY	SUITE	1007	WVR	\$6,000.00 \$6,670.00	TLL
								Waiver .Section 8	
		ARLINGT	ON	VA	2	2202			
TreasurySymbol/	Fund S	ummary							
20X1807	RFND	11	1113	4410	00	000		S6.000.00	

Refunds: 1 Total Refund Value: \$6.000.00